

The Negroes, however, wean their children after one year, and some Cayapa women are beginning to imitate them. Weaning is accomplished by shaming or ridiculing the child, or frightening him with stories of cannibalistic apes, or applying bitter tasting substances to the nipple.

The Cayapa child between the ages of three to five is marked by what appears to be incipient rickets, rotted teeth and skin diseases that arise from a marked deficiency in vitamins A, C and D. This stems in major part from the fact that the child is generally kept within the confines of the home at these ages. The Cayapa house is usually built without walls; it is a roof supported by tall posts, and is perched above the ground on a hill overlooking a river. If the infant should manage to climb down the ladder to the ground, and somehow avoid tumbling down the hill into the river, he must still contend with snakes that are fairly common in the area. Consequently his movements within the house are restricted and he is effectively blocked off from direct sunlight and on canoe trips he is usually placed under a canopy. While fruit is plentiful, it is

862

[996]

146
855

342
361
136

[262]

adults brought home to the confined child; the adults eat it as they pluck it from the tree or purchase it from traveling vendors at the riverside. During his fifth year when he is permitted to move about in the sunlight and secure fruit, the incidence of this disease decreases and his rickety appearance disappears.

Children are wanted and beloved. As an example of permissiveness, they are allowed to indulge in cookies, candies, sugar and soft drinks, but conversely an element of teasing often enters the picture. To illustrate, a small child will be offered a candy, which, when he reaches for it, will be snatched away. Sometimes to this effort cry; some children cry; others just sit looking sulky. The adults seem to enjoy this teasing. An impressive example of constructive behavior presented itself one day as a group of Indian women and their children came to visit us. Everyone was seated on the floor in a circle, and the conversation was friendly. Finally, a woman took a plate of candy and handed it to my son who was sitting on his mother's lap. As he reached out eagerly for the tidbit, the woman brought her hand back. At this everyone laughed, but the child

146 ●
155
262

155
[142]
[262]

129
155

until the child is about four years of age. The Cayuga child between the ages of three to five is marked by what appears to be incipient rickets, curved teeth and this disease that stem from a marked deficiency in vitamins A, E and D. Prior to this time the child may have been extremely healthy. During the period of confinement to the house he is effectively blocked off from sunlight within the house and on some trips he is placed under a canopy. While fruit is plentiful, it is seldom brought home to the confined child; the adults eat it as they pluck it from the tree or purchase it from traveling vendors on the river side. The child is permitted, indeed encouraged to eat medical sugar by the flat ball and to drink soda pop. During his fifth year when he is permitted to leave the confines of the house he is able to move about in the sunlight and secure fruits; then the incidence of this disease decreases and his rickets appearance disappears.

The low sexual drive of the white male Cayuga is best reflected in his replies to questions as the frequency of sexual activity. Recalling that sexual pleasure is obtained, married men in their later twenties and early

155
655
[146]

[2:3]

[146]

155
151
151
151